

Vol. XXXVI

JUNE, 1941

No. 10

# *The* Masonic Craftsman

*Published Monthly at Boston,  
Massachusetts, in the Interest  
of Freemasonry*

*In This Issue: Meriwether Lewis—Freemason*



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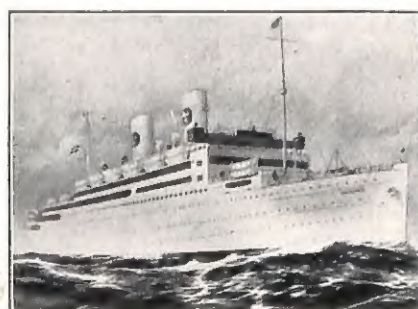
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ENGLAND 1941-?

A. H. M.

Stern was the airman's visage that night,  
As he dropped his load of dynamite;  
But he smiled as he saw, with a cynical look,  
The fruit of the bomb in the fair outlook  
Of a peaceful town by a gurgling brook,  
Where woman and babe, in their homely nook  
Slept and dreamed of a happier day,  
When the birds should sing in their roundelay,  
Of the fields and the flowers, the woods and the trees,  
The hum in the air of the bumble bees;  
Of the fruits of the soil and the harvest scene,  
And the gladsome sound of the threshing machine.

\* \* \* \* \*

Soft was the flesh of the woman and child—  
No barrier they to the bombs strewn wild—  
But what was that to the fiend who flew  
To the work of destruction he was ordered to do.  
But an instant it took to snuff out the life  
Of an innocent child and a man's good wife,  
For when he returned to his Vaterland,  
He'd meet with reward at his fuehrer's hand,  
And receive with some flattering metaphors old:  
The praise for his deed so "daringly bold".  
But 'twill comfort him little when conscience shall tell  
Of his share in a plot which was worthy of hell.

\* \* \* \* \*

Yet again there shall live by that gurgling stream  
Others to come with the same fond dream;  
For the deeds of the airman, misguided and wrong,  
Have naught to prevail against Truth, for so long  
As a Voice of a higher Authority breathes  
Of a world in which love and charity wreathes;  
Shall conquer the hate, and the fear, and the grave,  
And men shall be freed from the chains of a slave;  
When faith with a force exultantly strong  
Shall triumph with joy o'er the errors of wrong.  
The woman and babe shall have lived not in vain  
When righteousness reigns in the world once again.





NEW ENGLAND

## Masonic Craftsman

ALFRED HAMPDEN MOORHOUSE, Editor

MEMBER MASONIC PRESS ASSOCIATION

27 Beach Street, Boston, Mass. Telephone HANcock 6451

Vol. 36

JUNE, 1941

No. 10

## LIFE

## MEMBERSHIP

A committee appointed in a Massachusetts lodge to investigate automatic life membership expressed deep concern over the results of their findings. They say that at the present time non-contributing members constitute 38.65 per cent of the total membership; in five years the percentage will rise close to 50 per cent, and in ten years it will reach 65 per cent. In the past ten years loss in membership has averaged 29 a year and, while that average will be lowered somewhat in the future, it is certain to suffer a considerable drop in membership in the next ten-year period. This is a positive result in all large lodges that have been in existence over a long period of years, and certainly there is no indication to justify the hope that initiations into the fraternity will change this situation.

The percentage of non-contributing members is far too high at the present time to assure the successful financial operation of the lodge, and to continue the present practice of automatic life membership, will imperil its security.

They strongly recommended the repeal of the provision in the lodge by-laws, creating automatic life membership after 35 years.

**FRATERNITY** Fraternity as typified by the Masonic tie constitutes one of the rare values of life. Outside the family tie, which holds strongest during immature years, the man who sees his relations slowly passing into other pursuits, mayhap moving to other communities, where close association is impossible and where divergent interests absorb time and attention is sometimes at a loose end for fraternal intercourse—lonely.

The distractions of business or professional life take full toll of time and attention, but in idle hours when free to forget them temporarily, the natural impulse of most of us is for companionship. Where, better than in a society of individuals with like interests, is it to be found than in the lodge room? There on a common level we meet men often of outstanding merit similarly inclined. The diversion is delightful and our own ideas are freshened by the interchange of opinion and a common purpose.

Fraternization constitutes one way—and a worthy one, of destroying those opposite complex desires to seek selfish gain among men of good will and a recognition of mutual interests in common problems.

The purposeful pursuit of a friendly relationship between man and man is eminently desirable and worthy of utmost encouragement; it is in the lack of such under-

standing among individuals, states and nations that most of the world's ills germinate, fester and grow.

By all means then attend lodge, meet your fellows there, forget outside isms and ideologies and concentrate upon the single and sterling objective of getting better acquainted in this brotherhood of Freemasonry.

**CONSISTENCY** In a niche on the grand stairway in Masonic Temple, Boston, stands an heroic statue to General Warren of Bunker Hill fame; through the annals of Masonic history runs tribute to early patriots who helped to mold the United States of America; the famous Boston Tea Party is alleged to have been but a temporarily adjourned meeting of the Lodge of St. Andrew with pressing business on the agenda. These and many other incidents readily found in the records of the Craft attest the characteristics of early Masons who sought freedom for themselves and their successors.

A mistaken notion prevails that Masons must forego the discussion of politics. That taboo in so far as it pertains to lodge room is sound, for harmony is essential. Outside the tyled walls, however, men may, do, and should actively participate in the affairs of government and particularly now, when a threat far greater than any confronting our earlier Masonic heroes exists.

The direct results of German victory over any country need no elaboration. Sixteen despoiled countries of Europe, where Freemasonry formerly flourished in varying degree, amply attest the proclivities of Nazi persecution. The Craft as such in those countries has been destroyed.

Remaining to Freemasonry are the two great English-speaking nations, with smaller elements in other countries functioning in lesser degree.

England, from whence came our Masonic charter, is being cruelly pressed to maintain her institutions and way of life. The British Commonwealth of Nations in which Freemasonry flourishes, proudly and freely supports the mother country to the extent of their great resources. Epic days for the Empire these.

America, or the United States, still flounders in a maze of uncertainty, with a government split on vital issues and a small minority sabotaging the nation's will. Freemasons, not less than Congress, are not a unit on the most vital issue which has risen to affect the country's destiny since the days of Warren and Bunker Hill and there is no concerted action. Even the welfare of American soldiers appears to be largely a matter of indifference to some.

To what a pass has the country come? Shall it be said that soft living, self-indulgence, extravagance and immorality have made us a nation of weaklings, or will the spirit of enterprise and patriotism which characterized its forefathers finally rouse itself to direct action in defense of its dearest privilege—the right of free men to live under a free government which they themselves shall set up. Freemasonry has been a big factor in the

The New England Masonic Craftsman magazine is published monthly. It is devoted to the interests of Freemasonry, and the brotherhood of man. Entered as second-class matter October 5, 1905, at the Post-office at Boston, Massachusetts, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879. The subscription price in the United States is Two Dollars a year, elsewhere Three Dollars, payable in advance. Twenty-five cents a single copy. Address all letters to the New England Masonic Craftsman, 27 Beach Street, Boston, Massachusetts. For the news and advertising departments call Hancock 6451.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS  
Alfred Hampden Moorhouse, Editor and Publisher.

June, 1941]

MASONIC CRAFTSMAN

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past. Its history is wrapped up indissolubly with the early heroic days of America. To be worthy of its past it should now seek to put its weight into the scales against the cruelties of a system which otherwise will ultimately destroy it, body and soul. Not less are they justified in taking this step than "Hiram Abiff, the widow's son, who lost his life in defense of his integrity".

**ALIEN** The majority of the people in this country are loyal citizens. Their background has been democratic—their natural impulses favor free discussion and self rule in national routine and emergency matters. Usurpation of their fundamental rights, as they conceive them, is anathema.

The tendency to allow every angle of viewpoint to be discussed ad infinitum serves however to slow progress to a point where it sometimes seems that the democratic system is hopelessly bogged down. But sudden shock brings to light its tremendously resilient quality and as well its ability to put the stupendous powers of a great nation into action.

Right now the machine appears to be at dead center. With two diametrically opposite philosophies involved, argument pro and con seemingly is interminable. Yet soon or late decision will come and America will act and the wheel of its destiny revolve again.

To say that affairs of other countries are not our affairs is to ignore the trends of recent events. The past decade has brought all peoples immeasurably closer. Ties exist which are of vital consequence to all. One of these is the Masonic tie.

True, there are barriers to free international discussion or intelligent consideration, principally those of language and artificial boundaries. While these exist there will always be differences, mostly in the field of economics. It is this latter which has brought about present world strife, and that fact is one which must be recognized before any permanent settlement of world problems can be arrived at.

There is one issue at stake, however, which is clear. If the superior efficiency of the centrally governed or despotic form of state control is granted, it indubitably has got to be admitted that men under it are not free agents. Their individual initiative is stifled and in due time progress will lag, if it has not previously been stopped by the inner corruption of an inevitably accompanying bureaucracy.

On the other hand, given freedom of suffrage and enterprise, full rein is possible to all the forward impulses as well as baser instincts of men; out of it comes

the fruition of unthwarted ambition and its accompanying rewards or penalties.

Which will you have? Speakers and armchair strategists and world planners innumerable ardently advocate many and diverse theses. Words in endless torrents assail the ears and sometimes insult the intelligence. A phantasmagoria of sound! Out of the welter occasionally emerges a crystal clear message like the stroke of lightning brightening a dark sky, and reason percolates through clouds of doubt.

Much of the present argument revolves around a false and foreign conception of the fundamental form of American democracy. Its proponents are not cast in the American mold. Yet our system permits their propaganda. Intensely vocal, they would see the ideal upon which the success of this country has been based scrapped. Their ideas are alien to it.

There are altogether too many aliens here today. They constitute a grave danger in a fateful hour. With all the vast sociological expenditures now being made, it would probably be cheaper and prudent to give each a first-class passage back to the land of his origin, though we doubt if he would be permanently content to remain there—the transplanting would be disillusioning.

It is not so easy as that, however. We are at present paying for "the sins of the fathers" and a day when unrestricted immigration was not only permitted, but encouraged. The tree is bearing its fruit and it is not all sweet.

It is not to be expected that the indoctrinations of their youthful days will be forgotten by aliens here. The Roman Catholic theory that the first few years of a child's life vitally influence his whole future is a perfectly sound one, more so than most people imagine. These aliens then are the chaff among the wheat of sound Americanism. Their ideas are not American ideals. They defile the quality of the crop.

The phrase "It is not necessary that we should all think alike, but we should all think" is appropriate now as ever, to see that in our thinking the element of Reason prevails, for when it does we shall discover abundantly that the democratic way of America is the best way for us and that all false foreign doctrines so far as they affect our national life's interests must be destroyed.

In all present controversies it is well to consider the maxim of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts: "Follow Reason," for while it is true that perfection has not yet been reached in our human relationships, at least some progress has been made and the machinery for more nearly perfecting it abides within its democratic structure through the practise of that admirable injunction.





# A Monthly Symposium

## The Symposium in Retrospect

ALFRED H. MOORHOUSE  
BOSTON

The Editors;  
JOSEPH E. MORCOMBE  
SAN FRANCISCO

WILLIAM C. RAPP  
CHICAGO

### REMINISCENCE

By ALFRED H. MOORHOUSE  
Editor *Masonic Craftsman*, Boston

**D**URING the twilight days of life the habit of reminiscence grows. We contemplate fondly recollections of early childhood days when, carefree, we roamed field and forest, cast line into seductive pool, waded in cooling stream, climbed trees or, perchance, if city-bred, met the circus when it came to town, played ball on some back lot and indulged in a hundred and one other incidental sports and games and gave not a thought to the future.



Likewise to the pundit who seeks to serve his fellows with wise observations on the current trend, that others may glean knowledge

or profit, a glance back affords keen retrospective pleasure.

For ten years now this Symposium has dealt month by month with questions pertaining to Freemasonry, seeking to cast light and point the way to a better understanding of the Craft, and those things which concern it.

Conceived originally by that sage and mentor, Joseph E. Morcombe, who is the senior of the group, it has treated one hundred and twenty-five separate and distinct topics, ranging all the way from the physical architecture of temples to the more enduring spiritual values contained within the Craft itself—a wide field with some hard soil in which to plow.

It has been a labor of love, withal priceless in compensation: in the mutual respect and affection of its sponsors one for another and as well the appreciation of a host of readers to whom its monthly contribution has been eagerly looked forward, and whose Masonic lives have been in some measure influenced by its reasoning and logic.

Founded in December, 1930, with four editors, its ranks have been depleted by the death of one. During all that time not once has this writer met in person either of the others, one has met but two, the other only one. Yet hands so strong in Masonic affection have been forged that Death alone can dissolve them and never once, notwithstanding a completely independent and unrestricted expression on the questions discussed, has sign of rancor or ill-will arisen to affect a happy relationship. Thus has been given in striking form a demonstration of the purely Masonic tie.

What of the topics? Within the recollection of many Freemasonry will be recalled as of a thing apart, an

independent factor in the lives of men, separated from the so-called "profane" by walls of secrecy and ritual fraught with fearful implications; a mysterious thing about which the public were not permitted to be informed.

Those days are passing. Instead of a secret and exclusive attitude and the obscurantism of misguided elders who would shroud Freemasonry's work in a veil of darkness, the truth is beginning to dawn that as an important instrumentality to the furtherance of its worthy purposes is an understanding of its functions. The Symposium, we like to think, has contributed to this somewhat, and merited approval.

Today, profound changes are affecting society and dark clouds overhang the world; more and more the need for Masonic Light is apparent. Such light as lies within the power of the present editorial triumvirate will be cast with care, observing always fundamental Craft precepts.

During the past decade the Symposium has been guided solely by Craft interests. The future will give to it such place in the minds of true Craftsmen as its merit warrants. That is all it seeks.

### A DECADE OF DISCUSSION

By WM. C. RAPP  
Editor *Masonic Chronicler*, Chicago

**T**HE invitation to indulge in reminiscence and to review the experience encountered during the more than ten years during which a given topic has been discussed each month by contributors to this Symposium, brings to the mind of the present writer the realization that time wings its flight with great rapidity. Ten years is not a long time, yet it will bring material changes and modifications in viewpoint and vision to all human beings. It is interesting to speculate whether the symposiasts would today be willing to give unequivocal indorsement to all the views they expressed in the 125 articles they



penned during the last decade. Probably not.

Practically all of the questions discussed were directly or indirectly concerned with the institution of Freemasonry. The views recorded and the conclusions reached in all these articles reflected only the individual opinions, entitled to no greater consideration than the opinions of readers, except perhaps that more intimate knowledge of everything connected with the fraternity and experience in analyzing its problems may have

given the writers an advantage that gave weight to their findings.

That a healthy variance of opinion exists was indicated by numerous letters received from readers who held views of their own and submitted critical reviews of the symposia. As a matter of fact, the coterie of editors did not always see eye to eye and frequently reached diametrically opposite conclusions from the same premises. All of which added interest to the proceeding.

What of worth has been accomplished by the symposiasts? If they have brought factual information to their readers, if they have been able occasionally to correct misconception, and most of all if their work has caused brethren to reflect on and study the limitless ramifications of Freemasonry, then their labors have been of benefit to readers. In this profit the editors have shared tremendously. Almost every subject has called for research work, for scanning of Masonic histories and encyclopedias, for refreshing the memory in regard to details of the work in which the fraternity is engaged. On top of that, the task has been a pleasant diversion.

Subjects for discussion are always welcome, and many such have been received in the past from interested brethren. In closing these reminiscences, which naturally are of a personal nature, we extend our sincere thanks for many letters of commendation, as well as for those of a dissident nature, which occasionally proved to be of great value.

### SURVEYING THE FIELD OF LABOR

By JOS. E. MORCOMBE  
Editor *Masonic World*, San Francisco

**"O**UR Symposium—Reminiscence and Review." Such is our subject for the month. It gives a welcome relief from the often serious task of finding pertinent topics of Craft interest, and seeking to discuss



them intelligently. The symposiasts are asked to go back over the period of a decade, during which these monthly contributions to Masonic fugitive literature have been offered to readers. We who have thus tried to serve and perhaps instruct our fellows have no apologies to offer. We believe that the idea of searching out matters of value, to be variously treated, is in itself excellent. Whether we

who have essayed the job have proven competent is for more impartial judges to decide.

Going back over the files of the *Masonic World* we find that the first showing of this department appeared

in the issue for December, 1930. Through the intervening years we have taken up one hundred and twenty-six subjects of greater or lesser importance. We can still honestly believe that space has not been wasted nor labor been in vain.

One name that appeared at head of this department, and was carried there until a comparatively recent period, is now missing. Our loved brother and kindly colleague, James A. Fetterly, editor of the *Masonic Tidings*, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, was called from the scene of earthly labor to the further reaches of soul development. Monthly those of us who are left miss his quiet but incisive writings. Yet on occasion this experienced editor could thrust swiftly and with sharpened steel where meanness showed itself or slander raised its ugly head. Dear "Jim," you are of us still in spirit, and the Symposium is the poorer and of lessened force because of your untimely passing.

For the reader the differing viewpoints, reached independently, there is an added value. We do not always think alike, and can even argue forcibly against each other, while agreeing on essentials. For us of the "three-some," who try to maintain the reader interest, there is a more intimate relationship, not otherwise to be attained. Each month, with the stint for publication, there goes a gossip letter. Individually we register our likes or dislikes, whether over things of heaven or earth. We give to each other information of value; bewail the faults and follies of our fellow men, and speak words of heartfelt cheer, as befits the occasion, the season or the need. Thus through the years we are ever become more closely bound to each other, by ties that only death can sever.

We have hoped, and will continue to seek for some tried and experienced brother from the South, who will bring to expression the Masonic thought of that great and important section of the nation and the fraternity. Then we could rightly claim to present a real cross-section of American Craft sentiment, the others of us representing the Atlantic states, the huge Middle West and the long stretch of the Pacific Slope.

In introducing this feature to readers at its inception we promised that "present-day duties and opportunities would be emphasized. Criticism, when offered, will be constructive and without malice, with praise for all that promises good in thought or action, and open reprehension for whatever appears to injury of the Craft." Now reviewing what has been accomplished, it can be said that the symposiasts have lived up to such promise. The same rules of conduct will hold for us in the future. We have gained much from the experiences of ten years. Now with vastly increased responsibilities; in a time dangerous and without certain guidance, yet affording new opportunities for service, we hope to carry on even more vigorously for benefit of the brethren, "whithersoever dispersed."





# MERIWETHER LEWIS

MISSOURI'S FIRST ROYAL ARCH MASON

By RAY V. DENSLOW, Grand Secretary

## I. THE MASON

"The wages he received  
Were the rewards of a well spent life  
And the knowledge of Divine Truth."

For many years it has been believed that the earliest known record of a Royal Arch Mason in Missouri was the signature of Major James Bruff to an application for a lodge in St. Louis. He had signed the application as "J. Bruff, Royal Arch." But recently, through the courtesy of Bro. Ray Baker Harris, Librarian of the Supreme Council A.A.S.R., we have received a copy of the Royal Arch diploma of Meriwether Lewis—and the diploma being dated 1799 constitutes the earliest Royal Arch Masonic record of the Louisiana Purchase. The original diploma is in the Library of Congress in Washington, D. C., and reads:

"We, the High Priest, Captain of the Host, and Captain of the Guard, of the Royal Arch Chapter of Royal Arch, Superexcellent MASONS, of Staunton Lodge No. 13, do certify and attest, that our worthy faithful, true, and well beloved Brother Meriwether Lewis (who has affixed his name adjacent to the Seal) was by us exalted to the sublime degree, of a Royal Arch, Superexcellent MASON; he having with due honor and justice to the Royal community, justly supported, with skill and valor, the different, and amazing trials attending his exaltation: and as such, We recommend him, to all true and faithful Brethren of the Royal Arch.

"Given under our hands and Seal of our Chapter this 31st day of October Anno Dom. 1799, and of Royal Arch Masonry 2809.

Wm. Chambers, H. P.  
Joshua Parry, C. H.  
Robert W. Donnell, C. G.

Teste  
Vincent Tapp, Scribe."

We are very happy to award the palm of being the first Royal Arch Mason to that sturdy pioneer whose explorations opened up the great west for settlement. Freemasons have ever been pioneers. Our traditions are full of references to brave and courageous souls who have given up their lives in the support of their social and religious beliefs, and those who sacrificed their all on the altars of Truth, Justice, and Liberty. Truly does our fraternity teach that rugged individualism where each is limited only by his vision, and his willingness to do and dare.

Volumes have been written of Lewis the Man and the Explorer, but historians are inclined to gloss over Lewis the Mason, and the part Masonry played in the life of our hero. Could it be that Freemasonry is some unclean thing to be laid aside when its possessor has attained to fame and rank? We think not! Nor did Meriwether Lewis think so, for when kind hands prepared his body for burial, they removed from the inside of his breast pocket the silk and linen Masonic apron which testified to the great love he bore the fraternity. And as in return for that love, the apron is soiled only by the life-blood of its owner.

This story is written primarily to tell of Meriwether Lewis the Mason, and to place upon the printed record the story of his Masonic life in the hope that his life and record may be an inspiration to the thousands of Freemasons, who since his time have knelt at Masonic altars throughout the great territory which he opened up for settlement and development. And while there are today no great continents to explore, there are tasks equally as important to undertake and great wrongs to mend.

Life is, and always will be, the Great Adventure.

Well known to Virginians is the County of Albemarle; it was the home county of President Thomas Jefferson. Albemarle was also the home of a Virginia Lodge which bore a beautiful designative name—"Door to Virtue Lodge No. 44." Its first known record is that of April 1795. It was to this ancient Virginia Lodge that Meriwether Lewis, then a young man, applied for admission according to a record of December 31, 1796:

"Meriwether Lewis was recommended as a proper person to become a member."

Evidently the brethren of "Door to Virtue Lodge" had the same opinion, for the records of January 28, 1797, show that he was elected on that date, and on the very evening of his election he was initiated an Entered Apprentice. Laws were not the same in 1797 as they are now and the records further show that on the following evening (January 29, 1797) he was passed to the degree of Fellowcraft. On this same date he was raised to the degree of Master Mason. Whether emergency demanded this rapid conferring of degrees is not known; he was twenty-three years of age and had just returned from Western Pennsylvania where he had assisted in suppressing an insurrection. During that period he had held a lieutenant's commission in the regular army and was in the army at the time he received his Masonic degrees. He was promoted to a captaincy in 1797, the year he became a Master Mason.

"Door to Virtue Lodge" made its last entry in its records, June 2, 1801; members affiliated with another lodge of which we shall speak later. In the meantime we learn from the lodge records of a called meeting at which—

"Brother Meriwether Lewis was admitted, and the degree of Past Master was conferred upon him." (April 2 (3?), 1797)

On this occasion this degree was conferred upon two other distinguished Virginians, Peter and Samuel Carr, nephews of President Thomas Jefferson. Governor Randolph, who had married a daughter of Jefferson, was at this time a member of Door to Virtue Lodge. It is because of these close relationships to Jefferson that most historians base their belief in Jefferson's Masonic membership.

Lewis, having become a Captain in the U. S. Army, was absent from this section of the country much of the time and unable to attend lodge meetings. He did attend his lodge in June, 1798, and again on July 28th of that year, at which time he was said to have been "ad-

mitted to membership." From this date until March 1799, he was regular in lodge attendance, held lodge office, and took an active part in the work. It was through his motion that a portion of lodge funds were set apart for charitable purposes, not to be used except as provided by the by-laws. Wm. Bache, a grandson of Benjamin Franklin, was a member of the lodge during this period.

The next Masonic record we have of Lewis is that given in his Royal Arch diploma wherein it was certified that he had been made a Royal Arch Mason; while the diploma might not contain the date of the actual conferring of the degree, it does prove that he was a Royal Arch Mason on the date certified to—October 31, 1799. The wording of the diploma is:

"Exalted to the sublime degree of  
a Royal Arch, Superexcellent Mason"

The reference is to the degree of Royal Arch Mason and has no connection with the degree known to us today as Superexcellent Master. The degree of Most Excellent Master was not being conferred in Virginia at that time and attention is called to the wording of the diploma wherein it is set forth that the degrees were conferred:

"In a Royal Arch Chapter of Royal Arch  
Superexcellent Masons, of Staunton Lodge No. 13."

This method resorted to in the early days of having higher degrees conferred in the body of lodges was quite general. The old lodge of Fredericksburg, Va., where Washington received his degrees, possesses the first known record of the Royal Arch degree (1753); it was conferred in the lodge.

It was with Widow's Son Lodge, formerly of Milton, Virginia, that many of the members of Door to Virtue Lodge united. Widow's Son Lodge was established at Milton, October 26, 1799, and existed there until April 13, 1816; this town was an important tobacco center, but the changing trade necessitated removing the lodge to Charlottesville, six miles distant, where it has continued its existence as Widow's Son Lodge No. 60.

Thus ends the story of Meriwether Lewis' connection with Virginia Masonry. In 1801, Lewis was made private secretary to President Jefferson and continued in that capacity until 1803. In July of that year (July 4th), Lewis received his instructions from President Jefferson as to his journey of exploration. September 23, 1806, the expedition returned to St. Louis. Lewis went on to Washington to discuss his travels with the President, arriving there in February 1807; shortly afterward, Lewis received his commission as Governor of Upper Louisiana.

The next Masonic reference is August 2, 1808, when Masonic brethren resident of St. Louis, following a meeting for discussion, presented an application to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania asking for a warrant of dispensation. The name of Lewis required no further guarantee for our Pennsylvania brethren.

The application read:

"To the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania:

"The undersigned now are or have been members of regular Lodges, and having the good of the fraternity at heart, we are willing to exert our best endeavors to promote and diffuse the genuine principles of Masonry; that for the convenience of our respective dwellings and for other good reasons, we are desirous of forming a new Lodge, in the town of St. Louis, in the Territory of Louisiana, to be

named and styled Saint Louis Lodge—we therefore pray for a warrant of constitution to empower us to assemble as a legal lodge, to discharge the duties of Masonry in a regular and constitutional manner, according to the original form of the Order and the regulations of your Grand Lodge.

"We have nominated and do recommend his Excellency Meriwether Lewis, a Past Master, to be the first Master; Thomas Fiveash Riddick to be the first Senior Warden and Rufus Easton to be the first Junior Warden of the said Lodge.

"If the prayer of our petition should be granted, we promise strict conformity to all the constitutional laws and regulations of your Grand Lodge.

"Be pleased to accept our Brotherly salutations.

"Given under our hands at St. Louis the 2d day of August A. L. 5808.

Meriwether Lewis  
Thomas F. Riddick, Master  
J. V. Garnier  
Joseph Kimball, Master  
Rufus Easton, Master  
B. Wilkinson (Appr.)  
J. Bruff, Royal Arch  
John Coons, Master."

The application was recommended by Louisiana Lodge No. 109, St. Genevieve:

"We, the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Members of the Louisiana Lodge No. 109, holden in the City of St. Genevieve,

"Do by these presents recommend to the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania those brethren whose names are to the foregoing petition as regular Masons, and we do further recommend Brother Meriwether Lewis as a Past Master Mason, Thomas Fiveash Riddick, a Master Mason, and Brother Rufus Easton, a Master Mason, as proper persons to fill the respective offices to which they have been nominated in a new Lodge to be constituted in the town of St. Louis under the Jurisdiction of the Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

"In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands and for want of a public seal annex our private seals in open lodge this eighth day of August 1808, and of Masonry 5808.

Seal.  
Tho. Oliver, Secretary.

Aaron Elliott, M.  
John Scott, Sen. Warden Pro tem.  
Geo. Bullitt, Jr. W."

Judge Otho Shrader of St. Genevieve wrote the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge officers and asked that the Warrant be rushed because of the possibility of Governor Lewis having to leave St. Louis in November on a journey to the Atlantic Coast. An emergent communication of the Pennsylvania Grand Lodge was held within six days after receipt of the application and September 16, 1808, the warrant was issued naming Governor Lewis as the first Master of the first lodge to be located in St. Louis, Missouri. Lewis' name is the only one appearing in the charter, although in correspondence, Grand Master Milnor had referred to other members of the lodge:

"& I understand the Brethren united with him are respectable."

The language of the Warrant is given in full:

"WE, JAMES MILNOR, Esquire, Right Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in and for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Masonic Jurisdiction thereunto belonging.

"To our Worthy and Much Respected Brother Otho



Shrader, Esquire, a Past Master Mason  
GREETING:

"Reposing the greatest confidence in your Zeal, Fervor, and Constancy in the Craft, WE DO by virtue of the Powers and Authorities in US vested hereby authorize and empower you to call to your assistance a sufficient number of known and approved Past Master Masons to open and Constitute a New Lodge to be held at the Town of St. Louis in the Territory of Louisiana in the United States of America. And there to proceed to the Installation of Our Worthy and much Respected Brother Meriwether Lewis, Esquire, Master Elect and other the officers of a New Lodge there to be established and Constituted to be named and styled 'Saint Louis Lodge' Number One Hundred and Eleven according to the most Ancient and Honourable Custom of the Royal Craft in all ages and amongst all Nations throughout the Known World and not contrarywise and make report to us hereon endorsed of your proceedings.

"This Dispensation to remain in force for Six Months from the Date hereof and no longer.

"Given under Our Hand and the Seal of Our Right Worshipful Grand Lodge at the City of Philadelphia in the said Commonwealth of Pennsylvania this Sixteenth Day of September in the Year of Our Lord 1808 and of MASONRY 5808.

Attest:

George A. Baker,  
Grand Secretary."

James Milnor.

The lodge at St. Louis was constituted by Judge Shrader, November 8, 1808, Governor Lewis being installed as Master, a fact which added much to the prestige of the fraternity in the Louisiana Purchase. During Lewis' term as Master, a St. John's Day service was held, June 24, 1809, the lodge assembling at the lodge hall and marching to the church in a body.

Shortly after Lewis had concluded his administration as Master of St. Louis Lodge No. 111, he left for his proposed voyage to Philadelphia and Washington. He was succeeded as Master by another Mason, equally as well known in St. Louis, Governor Frederick Bates.

The monument which marks his burial place is particularly Masonic and symbolic; it is the broken column signifying his untimely death, for he died at the early age of thirty-five years. His death was a loss to his country and to our fraternity.

## II. THE MAN

"He who would rule  
Must first learn the great lesson  
Of Obedience."

Few men have their biographies written by a President of the United States. In compliance with a request, President Thomas Jefferson wrote the biography of Meriwether Lewis; it was dated at Jefferson's home in Monticello, August 18, 1813, almost four years after Lewis' death.

We quote in part:

"Meriwether Lewis, late Governor of Louisiana, was born on the 18th of August 1774, near the town of Charlottesville, in the county of Albemarle, in Virginia, of one of the distinguished families of that state. John Lewis, one of his father's uncles, was a member of the king's council before the Revolution. Another of them, Fielding Lewis, married a sister of General Washington. His father, William Lewis, was the youngest of five sons of Colonel Robert Lewis of Albemarle, the fourth of whom, Charles, was one of the early patriots who stepped forward in the com-

mencement of the Revolution, and commanded one of the regiments first raised in Virginia and placed on continental establishment. Happily situated at home, with a wife and young family, and a fortune placing him at ease, he left all to aid in the liberation of his country from foreign usurpations, then first unmasking their ultimate end and aim.

"His good sense, integrity, bravery, enterprise, and remarkable bodily powers marked him as an officer of great promise; but he unfortunately died early in the Revolution. Nicholas Lewis, the second of his father's brothers, commanded a regiment of militia in the successful expedition of 1776 against the Cherokee Indians. The chastisement they then received closed the history of their wars and prepared them for receiving the elements of civilization . . . which have rendered them an industrious, peaceable and happy people.

"This member of the Lewis family, whose bravery was so usefully proven on this occasion was endeared to all who knew him by his inflexible probity, courteous disposition, benevolent heart, and engaging modesty and manners. He was the guardian of Meriwether Lewis, of whom we now speak, and who had lost his father at an early age. He (Meriwether) continued some years under the fostering care of a tender mother, of the respectable family of Meriwethers, of the same county. When only eight years of age he habitually went out, in the dead of night, alone with his dogs, into the forest to hunt the raccoon and opossum. At thirteen he was put to the Latin school and continued at that until eighteen, when he returned to his mother and entered on the cares of the farm. His talent for observation, which had led him to an accurate knowledge of the plants and animals of his own country, would have distinguished him as a farmer; but at the age of twenty, yielding to the ardor of youth and a passion for more dazzling pursuits, he engaged as a volunteer in the body of militia which were called out by General Washington, on occasion of discontents produced by the excise taxes in the western parts of the United States, and from that situation he was removed to the regular service as a lieutenant in the line. At twenty-three he was promoted to a captaincy; and, always attracting the first attention where punctuality and fidelity were requisite, he was appointed paymaster to his regiment." (Here Jefferson tells of the expedition.)

Lewis' journal of the expedition gives a complete story of journey to and from the Pacific until his return to St. Louis, September 23, 1806. We are informed that never had any similar event excited such joy throughout the United States for the populace, in addition to desiring information as to their discoveries, were anxious to know as to the safety of the party about whom many ill-founded rumors had been circulated since their departure from St. Louis.

President Jefferson continues his story of Lewis:

"It was the middle of February 1807, before Captain Lewis, with his companion, Captain Clark, reached the city of Washington, where Congress was then in session. That body granted to the two chiefs and their followers the donation of lands which they had been encouraged to expect in reward for their toil and dangers. Captain Lewis was soon after (March 3) appointed Governor of Louisiana, and Captain Clark (March 12), a General of its militia and agent of the United States for Indian affairs in that department."

A considerable time intervened before the Governor's arrival at St. Louis. He found the territory distracted by feuds and contentions among the officers of the government, and the people themselves divided by these factions into parties. Lewis became Governor of Lou-

isiana Territory, the former District of Louisiana, March 3, 1807, and served until his death October 11, 1809; he had succeeded the former Governor Wilkinson, and was in turn succeeded by Governor Howard. Lewis had resigned from the army March 2, 1807, the date upon which the U. S. Senate had confirmed his appointment as Governor of the Territory. And although his period of office was a brief one he performed many acts which were important to the new territory which he governed. From the District of New Madrid he formed the new territory of Arkansas. He commissioned many new officers and judges and ordered a road laid out "from St. Louis to St. Genevieve, thence to Cape Girardeau, thence to New Madrid."

Because of his friendship with the Indians he was enabled to hold a Council with representatives of the Sacs, Foxes, and Iowa Indians in St. Louis in August, 1808. A tract of country was ceded them as a result of this conference. Shortly thereafter he ordered the first fortification (Fort Madison) established in that region. At the same time General Clark, now his Indian Agent, concluded an important treaty with the Osages and established Fort Osage.

In 1808, he organized the militia of the Louisiana Territory, naming the elder August Chouteau as Colonel of the St. Louis Regiment. In that same year the first post office was established in St. Louis, his friend Rufus Easton being named Postmaster. Easton was Senior Warden of the lodge of which Lewis was the Master. In that year the first book was published in St. Louis; it was the *Laws of the Territory of Louisiana*, compiled by Frederick Bates, who succeeded Lewis as Master of Lodge No. 111. Bates was also a Territorial Governor. The book was printed by Joseph Charless, a member of Lewis' lodge. Charless also printed the first newspaper in the new territory—the *Missouri Gazette* (July 12, 1808).

The best description of his character is by one who had known him from boyhood—his friend and employer—Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States, who wrote of Lewis:

"Of courage undaunted; possessing a firmness and perseverance of purpose which nothing but impossibilities could divert from its direction; careful as a father of those committed to his charge; yet steady in the maintenance of order and discipline; intimate with the Indian character, customs and principles; habituated to the hunting life; guarded by exact observation of the vegetables and animals of his own country, against losing time in the description of objects already possessed; honest, disinterested, liberal, of sound understanding, and a fidelity to truth so scrupulous that whatever he should report would be as certain as if seen by ourselves."

Small wonder that such a man should be selected for an exploration which has become a great epic in American frontier life and in the history of American exploration. Well did Jefferson add of Lewis:

"With all these qualifications, if selected and implanted by nature in one body for this express purpose, I could have no hesitation in confiding the enterprise to him."

## III. THE EXPEDITION

"To promote the interests of his country  
He was willing to undergo any peril  
Privation or danger."

President Jefferson had always been intrigued with

the possibilities of the Great West. When the purchase of Louisiana Territory had been completed it was termed "Jefferson's Folly." It was perfectly natural that Jefferson would want to prove to his people the natural advantages of this large area of territory which the United States had newly acquired.

In a secret message to Congress Jefferson had referred to the monopolizing of trade on the Upper Missouri and Mississippi by British traders and had even gone so far as to suggest the sending of an expedition to investigate the trading possibilities. Congress voted \$2,500.00 for the purpose and Lewis was appointed to head the expedition. He personally superintended the manufacture of arms and ammunition at Harper's Ferry, Maryland. What had promised to be a secret expedition turned out to be a public one, for in the meantime the United States had acquired by purchasing a large part of the territory to be explored.

Desiring to share the responsibilities of the exploration with another, he selected one whom he had known from boyhood, William Clark, then living at Louisville, Kentucky, to accompany him.

A voyage of this kind must be adequately financed. Both Jefferson and Lewis were uncertain as to where their plans might lead. That Lewis might be fully provided for, Jefferson issued him a letter of credit, the like of which has never been seen since:

"Washington, U. S. of America, July 4, 1803.

"Dear Sir:

"In the journey which you are about to undertake for the discovery of the course and source of the Missouri, and of the most convenient water communication thence to the Pacific Ocean, your party being small, it is to be expected that you will encounter considerable dangers from the Indian inhabitants.

"Should you escape these dangers, and reach the Pacific ocean, you may find it prudent to hazard a return the same way, and be forced to seek a passage round by sea, in such vessels as you may find on the Western coast, but you will be without money, without clothes & other necessities; as a sufficient supply cannot be carried with you from hence, your resource in that case can only be the credit of the U. S. for which purpose I hereby authorize you to draw on the Secretaries of State, of the Treasury, of War & of the Navy of the U. S. according as you may find your draughts will be most negotiable, for the purpose of obtaining money or necessities for yourself & your men; and I solemnly pledge the faith of the United States that these draughts shall be paid punctually at the date they are made payable. I also ask the consuls, agents, merchants & citizens of any nation with which we have intercourse or amity, to furnish you with those supplies which your necessities may call for, assuring them of honorable and prompt retribution. And out consuls in foreign parts where you may happen to be, are hereby instructed & required to be aiding and assisting to you in whatever may be necessary for procuring your return back to the United States.

"And to give more entire satisfaction & confidence to those who may be disposed to aid you, I, Thomas Jefferson President of the United States of America, have written this letter of general credit for you with my own hand, and signed it with my name.

Th: Jefferson

To Capt. Meriwether Lewis."

Only a man of the finest character and reputation would have been entrusted with such a letter!

Lewis received additional instructions from Jefferson as to the objects to be accomplished. These instructions were dated June 20, 1803, and were addressed to Lewis



as "Captain of the First Regiment of Infantry, U. S. A." He was to be supplied with astronomical instruments; articles of barter for the Indians; firearms for the entire party; boats, tents and similar equipage; medicine, surgical instruments, and provisions; he was to have such powers as a commanding officer might have over troops.

The purpose of the mission was definitely stated to be:

"To explore the Missouri River, and such principal streams of it, as, by its course and communication with the waters of the Pacific ocean, whether the Columbia, Oregon, Colorado, or any other river, may offer the most direct and practicable water-communication across the continent, for the purpose of commerce."

He was to take observations of latitude and longitude and to enter them in books prepared for the purpose. He was to study the people inhabiting the country, the extent of their possessions, their relations with other tribes, their language and traditions, their occupations, food, clothing, physical and moral characteristics, their diseases and remedies, peculiarities, articles of their commerce, their religion, morality, the soil and face of the country, vegetable and mineral production, volcanic appearances, climate, winds, reptiles, insects and particular birds. Lewis was also given permission to name his successor in the event of his death or disability.

The Lewis diary records that he completed his boat at Wheeling, West Virginia, at 7 o'clock of the morning of August 31, 1803, and at 10 o'clock that morning he left Pittsburgh. He reached Marietta, Ohio, September 13, being compelled to drag his boat over many shoals. He was in St. Louis and witnessed the official transfer of the Territory of Upper Louisiana from France to the United States on March 9, 1804. Major Amos Stoddard represented both governments in the transfer, while Lewis was present as the special representative of President Jefferson.

The expedition left St. Louis May 14, 1804; it consisted of a keel-boat fifty-five feet in length; two pirogues; Lewis and Clark, the two officers commanding; nine woodsmen from Kentucky; fourteen U. S. soldiers, who had volunteered for the occasion; two French watermen; an interpreter and hunter; and the black servant (York) belonging to Captain Clark.

In addition to these there were a corporal and six soldiers, with nine watermen, who were to accompany the expedition as far as the Mandan nation. Two horses were taken along, being led along the banks as the expedition proceeded up the river.

May 21, 1804, the party was joined at St. Charles by Captain Lewis who had been unable to leave St. Louis with the expedition. That afternoon at four o'clock the party left St. Charles, but proceeded only three miles. Thus, laboriously they made their way up the Missouri. The only death on the expedition was that of Sergeant Floyd at Sioux City, Iowa, August 20, 1804. The party wintered at Fort Mandan, which they reached November 2nd. Mandan is about fifty-six miles from where now stands Bismarck, North Dakota. Here they secured the services of Sacagawea, the Bird Woman, whose service as an interpreter and guide was invaluable. On their way to Mandan, the party encountered Francois Valle, a member of the lodge established at St. Genevieve.

In July they came to a place where three great streams

of about equal size came together; these streams today bear the names given them by Lewis and Clark—Jefferson, Madison, and Gallatin, honoring the President of the United States, his Secretary of State, and Secretary of the Treasury. This was a fine courtesy and proves that the explorers were at least diplomatic.

They ascended the Jefferson, which appeared to be the larger of the three streams, to its source. Then horses were secured from the Indians and, accompanied by a guide, they spent the month of August passing through the mountains. September 22, 1805, they came upon the great plains of the Western slope, October 7th, they took canoes down the Kooskoosky river to the Columbia river, having traveled four thousand miles from the junction of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers.

November 7, 1805, Captain Clark wrote in his diary:

"We are in view of the Ocean, the great Pacific Ocean which we have been so long anxious to see, and the roaring or noise made by the waves breaking on the rocky shores may be heard distinctly."

March 23, 1806, they broke camp and began to re-ascend the river, having passed their third winter in a camp on the south bank of the Columbia river. Finding this ascent perilous, they left their boats, May 2nd, and traversed the country horseback, suffering many difficulties, privations and dangers in so doing. They reached the Missouri river August 12th and St. Louis on September 23, 1806, having been gone two years and four months. The party was disbanded when they reached St. Louis.

The populace was wild at their return; Lewis and Clark became the heroes of the hour. We have purposely refrained from going into detail as to their various explorations and discoveries for our public libraries are filled with stories of their exploits.

We have dwelt upon Lewis as a *Freemason* because in all the volumes we have read there has been no reference to his Masonic connections. That other Masons were in the party cannot be denied. Some became members of the fraternity after their return. Captain Clark petitioned, was elected, and received the degree in the lodge at St. Louis of which Lewis was first Master. George (Peg-leg) Shannon became a member and was buried near Palmyra:

"He had been a prominent Mason, and was buried with Masonic ceremony in a cemetery near Massey's Mill, about one mile north of Palmyra."

May 21, 1935, the Grand Lodge of North Dakota sponsored the erection of a marker on the camp site selected by Lewis and Clark for their winter quarters (1804-05). The dedicatory ceremonies were attended by acting Governor Walter Welford. The marker is built of native granite, erected in pyramidal form, superimposed upon a concrete base. It is 5 ft. square at the base and tapers upward to a height of 8 ft. and is 2 ft. square at the top. The monument is 9 ft. in height and is situated on a high bluff which overlooks the Missouri river.

An inscription on the monument reads:

"In this vicinity the Lewis and Clark Expedition camped from October 27th, 1804 to April 7th, 1805.

"Captain Meriwether Lewis, a member of St. Louis Lodge No. 111 A.F. & A.M., was probably the first Mason to tread upon what is now North Dakota soil. Captain William Clark was made a Mason in this lodge upon his return to St. Louis.

"This marker is erected by the Grand Lodge. A.F. & A.M., of the State of North Dakota in cooperation with constitu-

ent lodges as a lasting tribute to the courage, the heroism, the fidelity to trust, and the enduring service to country of these distinguished Masons.

"A. D. 1935-A. L. 5935"

The Grand Lodge of Missouri, belatedly, recognized the part played by the two eminent Freemasons, Lewis and Clark, by erecting a marker in front of the Masonic Temple, 3681 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis. This marker was dedicated during the annual communication of the Grand Lodge on September 24, 1940, in the presence of a large gathering of Grand Lodge members, Grand Master Vetsburg presiding and a brief address being delivered by Senator Harry S. Truman, who, at the time, was Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge.

The inscription reads:

"In Memory of  
Meriwether Lewis and William Clark  
Freemasons  
Whose fervency and zeal in fulfilling orders of  
President Jefferson  
Opened the Great Northwest to the freedom of  
American Citizenship  
A. D. 1940 A. L. 5940."

We of the Great West are still proud of Lewis and Clark, brother Master Masons whose conduct on the exploration and in the years which followed, proved—

"How pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"

#### IV. THE END

"Rough and rugged was the road,  
Long and toilsome the march  
But sustained and favored by the great I AM  
He at last neared his journey's end."

And now we come to the end of our tragic story—the death of Meriwether Lewis at the early age of thirty-five years, when at the height of his popularity and when an appreciative government might have bestowed further favors upon him.

Writing from the City of Washington, February 11, 1807, to his friend August Chouteau in St. Louis, Mo., Lewis said:

"This will be handed you by a particular friend and acquaintance of mine, Mr. Fleming Bates, late Judge of the Michigan Territory and receiver of public monies at Detroit. Mr. Bates has been recently appointed the Secretary of the Territory of Louisiana and Recorder of the Board of Commissioners and is about to establish himself at St. Louis. . . . I shall probably come on to St. Louis in the course of the next fall for the purpose of residing among you; in such an event I should wish timely to procure a house by rent or otherwise for my accommodation, and I have fixed my eye on that of Mr. Gratiot, provided we can come to terms which may be mutually agreeable. I would prefer leasing or renting to purchase; in either case the enclosure of the garden must be rendered secure, and the steps and floor of the piazza repaired by the 1st of October next. I would thank you to request Mr. Gratiot to write me on this subject, and to state his terms distinctly as to price, payment, etc., in order that I may know whether my resources will enable me to meet these or not, or whether it will become necessary that I should make some other provision for my accommodation."

Having accepted the appointment of Governor of the Territory, he came to St. Louis which he found distracted by feuds and quarrels among the officers, and the people were very much discontented.

President Jefferson mentions this:

"He determined at once to take no sides with either party, but to use every endeavor to conciliate and harmonize them. The even-handed justice he administered to all soon established a respect for his person and authority and perseverance and time wore down animosities and reunited the citizens again into one family."

Lewis had filed a number of claims with the government in Washington and for some reason these claims had never been allowed. He felt that his honor was at stake and decided to cut the strings of red tape which then, as now, surrounds government business, and go to the heads of the departments involved. He arranged to return to Washington, and left St. Louis, going down by boat to the present site of Memphis, Tennessee, intending to go on by way of New Orleans, and there engaging a coastal vessel for the trip to Washington. From this time on, the stories of what happened differ materially, general rumor at the time attributing his death to suicide, while later investigations favor the more sensible idea that he was murdered.

Having halted at Chickashaw Bluff he heard rumors of a coming war with England and concluded that rather than risk his papers and vouchers of his accounts (having to do with the Lewis and Clark expedition), he would strike across country to Washington over what was then known as Natchez Trace. He was accompanied by Indian Commissioner Neely, and a French valet. Having crossed the Tennessee river, two of their horses became lost. Neely went in search of the horses while Lewis went on, promising to stop and wait for Neely at the first house he should find on the Trace.

The first house he came to was that of a man named Grinder. Grinder was not at home at that time, but Mrs. Grinder admitted him to the house. According to her statement, Lewis had shown signs of mental derangement; about three o'clock in the morning, she said, she heard the sound of the discharge of a gun. He called to her to bring him some water and "although the request was made in a pleasant and polite manner, she was afraid to leave her room and did not go. Very soon the sound of another shot was heard, and on entering the room he was found dead in his bed with a bullet hole under his chin and leading up to and through his skull." The date was October 11, 1809.

Although President Jefferson at the time accepted this statement of the death of his friend, the people of the community in which he had died, did not. It was common rumor that Lewis had been murdered and robbed, and many facts are said to have borne out this conclusion. Only 25¢ was found in his pockets, although he had left St. Louis with considerable money. Grinder was indicted, but there was insufficient testimony to convict him. Grinder moved from the community, and, although not known as a man of means while resident of Tennessee, he soon appeared to be prosperous, owning a large number of farms and slaves.

Lewis was buried at the spot where he had died.

In 1843, the Tennessee legislature organized the County of Lewis out of the territory, making the spot where he died the exact center of the county. Here, in 1848, the legislature further honored his memory by erecting a monument on the spot where he was interred.

Here, surrounded by only the native growth of the forest and where few travelers pass, on the line of the old Natchez Trace, there stands this grey monument of



native Tennessee rock, with a shaft of limestone rearing its head above the foundation in imitation of a giant of the forest; untimely broken before having served its usefulness. It still stands on the crest of a broad, high ridge, with deep gorges running east and west.

Through the courtesy of Grand Secretary Doss of Tennessee, we are able to give the four inscriptions which appear on the west, south, east and north of the monument:

(West Face): Born near Charlottesville, Virginia, August 18, 1774. Died October 11, 1809. Age, 35 years.

(South Face): An officer of the regular army, commander of the expeditions to Oregon in 1803 and 1806 Governor of the Territory of Louisiana. His melancholy death occurred where this monument now stands, and under which rest his mortal remains.

(East Face): In the language of Jefferson: His courage was undaunted, his firmness and perseverance yielded to nothing but impossibilities; a rigid disciplinarian, yet tender as a father to those committed to his charge; honest, disinterested, liberal, with a sound understanding, and a scrupulous fidelity to the truth.

(North Face): Immaturus obi; sed tu selicily annos. Vive meos. Bona Res Publica! Vive tuos. Erected by the Legislature of Tennessee, A. D. 1848.

Before leaving St. Louis, Lewis had appointed (August 19, 1809) his

"three most intimate friends, William Clark, Alexander Stuart and William C. Carr, his lawful attorneys with full authority to dispose of all or any part of his property real and person, and to pay, or receive, all debts due by or to him &c" and the authority was "executed in presence of Jeremiah Connor and Sam'l Solomon as witnesses."

Because the three attorneys were clothed with such full powers as are usually executed by executors only, it was believed that he might have had an intuition or foreboding that he might never return to St. Louis. Edward Hempstead was appointed administrator of the estate by the General Court of Territory of Louisiana in 1810. Lewis was the owner of several pieces of property near St. Louis. Lewis street was included in one of these pieces.

Lewis County, Missouri, is named in honor of the explorer, as is the City of Lewiston, in Montgomery County. The Lewis and Clark Bridge is another memorial, while throughout the state, schools, markers and historical sites bear the name of Meriwether Lewis.

He had described William Clark, Alexander Stuart and Wm. C. Carr as his most intimate friends. All were

Masons and members of the lodge which Lewis had served as Master. Jeremiah Connor, witness to his legal authority, was also a member of the same lodge.

One hundred and thirty-two years have passed since Lewis' death, but today his exploits are better known than then. Hundreds of volumes have been written describing the expedition and its personnel.

"The evergreen or ever blooming sprig of faith  
Still blooms, not only at the head of his grave,  
But in the hearts of his Masonic brethren  
And Companion Royal Arch Masons."

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*The Conquest*, Dye.

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*History of Missouri*, Davis and Durrie.

*Encyclopedia Britannica*.

*Kansas City Star*, April 17, 1934. (Lewis.)

## Sage Counsel from N. Y.

In concluding his report Grand Master Henry C. Turner of New York recently observed that the situations confronting the Craft "call for the utmost of our endeavor. We are a selected group of men who have made profession of our faith; a fellowship we are and in that fellowship we have found the utmost joy and companionship. But Freemasonry is a fellowship of kindred minds—minds which essentially think alike, cherish the same ideals, hold to the same aspirations.

"What then is the measure of the strength of our faith? We cannot say until we put it to the test. The response which we make will evidence the strength of our faith in Freemasonry. If our professions are more than lip service, if they evidence a faith which is a

part of our very being, we shall do our utmost in its support. We cannot be indifferent in our attitudes in the face of attack. The expression has been used that 'enthusiasm is faith in action.' Enthusiasm is the force which translates a sound faith into deeds. The moment calls for labor, hard labor, and I summon you brethren of the grand lodge, leaders in the Craft, to stand shoulder to shoulder, facing our responsibilities, assuming our obligations in a demonstration of a spirit of purpose and unity, which shall inspire the brethren, over whom we are called to preside, to a united front in the service of God and of our fellowmen."



#### JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Anthony Sayer was chosen first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England, June 24, 1717, when it was formed by four lodges in London.

Baron Johann de Kalb, who fought in the American Revolution and was buried with Masonic honors by the British Commander, Lord Cornwallis, was born at Hüttendorf, Germany, June 29, 1721.

Maj. Gen. Joseph Warren was born at Roxbury, Mass., June 11, 1741, and was killed at the battle of Bunker Hill, near Boston, Mass., June 17, 1775. He was Grand Master of Masons in America (1772).

Maj. Gen. Nathaneal Greene, who, with Washington, was the only General to serve all through the American Revolution, died at his estate "Mulberry Grove" near Savannah, Ga., June 19, 1786. The Masonic jewel presented to him by Lafayette and worn all during the war is in the possession of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island.

Frederick A. C. Muhlenberg, a Lutheran minister, who was the 1st and 3rd Speaker of the U. S. House of Representatives, and a member of Lodge No. 3, Philadelphia, Pa., died at Lancaster, Pa., June 5, 1801.

George IV, King of England, who was the 2nd Royal Grand Master of England (1790-1813), died at Windsor Castle, London, June 26, 1830.

Stephen A. Douglas, U. S. Senator from Illinois, was made a Mason in Springfield (Ill.) Lodge No. 4, June 26, 1840, and died at Chicago, June 3, 1861.

Gen. Andrew Jackson, 7th U. S. President and Grand Master of Tennessee (1822-23), died at "The Hermitage" near Nashville, Tenn., June 8, 1845.

Thomas H. Petrie, 33d, Deputy in Hawaii of the Supreme Council, 33d, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., received the 32nd degree at Honolulu, June 29, 1905.

John Hays Hammond, Sr., who was U. S. Special Ambassador at the coronation of King George V, of England, died at Gloucester, Mass., June 8, 1936. He was a member of Oriental Lodge No. 144, San Francisco, Calif.

#### LIVING BRETHREN

John E. Osborne, Governor of Wyoming (1893-97), and 1st Assistant Secretary of State (1913-16), was born at Westport, N. Y., June 19, 1864. He is a member of the York Rite of Wyoming.

Roland H. Hartley, 33d, Governor of

Washington (1925-33) and Past Grand Commander of Knights Templar in Minnesota, was born at Shogomoc, New Brunswick, Canada, June 26, 1864.

James W. Collins, 33d, Deputy in Utah of the Supreme Council, 33d, Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A., was born at Cheyenne, Wyo., June 1, 1884.

Harry F. Byrd, former Governor of Virginia and U. S. Senator from that state, was born at Martinsburg, W. Va., June 10, 1887. He is a member of the Scottish Rite at Alexandria, Va.

John W. Studebaker, U. S. Commissioner of Education and a member of the Scottish Rite at Des Moines, Iowa, was born at McGregor, Iowa, June 10, 1887.

Harold H. Burton, U. S. Senator from Ohio and a member of Pythagoras Lodge No. 682, Cleveland, was born at Jamaica Plain, Mass., June 22, 1888.

Prentiss M. Brown, U. S. Senator from Michigan and a member of St. Ignace (Mich.) Lodge No. 369, was born at St. Ignace, Mich., June 18, 1889.

Lewis O. Barrows, former Governor of Maine and a member of the York and Scottish Rites and the Shrine, was born at Newport, Me., June 7, 1893.

Rufus C. Holman, U. S. Senator from Oregon and Past Potentate of Al Kader Shrine Temple of Portland, received the 32nd degree of the Scottish Rite in that city, June 7, 1913.

Dwight P. Griswold, Governor of Nebraska and a member of the York Rite, received the 32nd degree of the Scottish Rite at Guthrie, June 22, 1918, later affiliating with the Bodies at Omaha, Nebr.

Harold Lloyd, motion picture star and producer and Past Potentate of Al Malakiah Shrine at Los Angeles, received the 32nd degree of the Scottish Rite in that city, June 12, 1926.

#### 100th YEAR OF IOWA MASONRY

The Grand Lodge of Iowa, A.F.&A.M., will celebrate the 100th anniversary of Masonry in that state beginning June 12, 1941, in Burlington. Though it will really be the 97th anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Iowa, Des Moines Lodge No. 1 in Burlington was chartered in 1840.

A dinner will be served by Blackmar Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, and Mayor M. A. Conrad, 32d, of Burlington, will welcome the Masonic guests who are expected to attend. Addresses will be given by Governor George A. Wilson, 32d, of Iowa, Past Grand Master Homer

A. Benjamin, 32d, of the Grand Lodge, Ray V. Denslow, 33d, Past Grand Master of the Missouri Grand Lodge, and Ross Burnham, Secretary of the Burlington Chamber of Commerce.

A concert by the Burlington High School Band, a dance at the Burlington Memorial Auditorium, and sightseeing trips will make up the balance of the celebration.

#### PROMINENT SCOT DIES

Thomas Girdwood Winning, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Scotland since February 4, 1926, died at Edinburgh, Scotland, on March 26, 1941. He was Past Master of Lodge St. John No. 11, Harwick, and an honorary member of Canongate Kilwinning Lodge No. 2, Edinburgh.

#### GRAND MASTER RE-ELECTED

Harold H. Murchie, a state supreme court justice, was installed Thursday, May 8, at Portland, Maine, for his second term as grand master of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Maine.

#### CORNERSTONE LAYING

Grand Master M. Preston Agee of the Grand Lodge of Georgia presided at the Masonic cornerstone laying ceremony for the new Auditorium-Armory, Elberton, Ga., in March. Philomathe Lodge No. 25, Elberton, sponsored the ceremony, which was requested by the Mayor and City Council.

A welcome was extended by Hamp Johnson, Jr., Master of Philomathe Lodge, who officially greeted and introduced Grand Master Agee and other members of the Grand Lodge. Following the opening of Philomathe Lodge and an Emergent Communication of the Grand Lodge, the Masons marched to the site of the building where the ceremony was conducted.

Deposited in the cornerstone was a box containing rosters of the membership of Philomathe Lodge, Oliver Chapter No. 25, R.A.M., Elbert Council No. 25, R. & S.M., Elberton officers serving in the 214th Coast Artillery and the enlisted men of Battery G of that unit, officials of the City of Elberton, heads of city departments, and officials of Elbert County; a guidon of the old Third Battalion, 122nd Infantry, Georgia National Guard, with the regimental and battalion insignia of that unit; a Royal Arch Penny and



two Masonic postage stamps of the Republic of Honduras.

Other prominent visitors included W. J. Penn, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, Dr. T. W. Sewell, Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter, R.A.M., and Past Grand Master J. Wilson Parker.

#### OLDEST CAPITOL CLERK DIES

William A. Smith, 86-year-old Congressional Record clerk, died in Washington, D. C., on May 14, 1941. He had served 66 years in the national capitol and was reputedly the oldest employee of the federal government in Washington. He was the personal friend of many former presidents and other famous political leaders.

He became a Master Mason in Washington Centennial Lodge No. 14, Washington, D. C., in 1891, was a friend and admirer of Gen. Albert Pike, former Grand Commander of the Supreme Council, 33d, A. & A.S.R., Southern Jurisdiction, U.S.A.

He entered federal service, in 1873, as a messenger in the government printing office. Two years later he was transferred to the capitol in the position of assistant congressional record clerk.

#### STATISTICAL

A report of the Masonic Service Assn. contains the information that since 1937 there have been 52 lodges chartered in the United States, 201 lodges have been deeded, 331 lodges have consolidated into 165 lodges, 6 charters have been restored and the present number of lodges in the 49 grand jurisdictions is 15,395.

#### POLISH MASONS PERSECUTED

A former representative of Poland to the United States has recently written this office under date of April 30, 1941, the first word that has been received from Poland since it was overcome by the Germans. His name is not given for fear there might be some retaliation upon his relatives in Poland.

He states that he went abroad immediately after the Germans entered Poland and just before they took the city of Warsaw, going to Rumania, Paris and finally to England where the Government of Poland is in temporary exile. It is operating in the name of the Polish National Council, which consists of twenty members and was created as a substitute for the Polish Parliament.

He says he has had no news from Warsaw for about a year and does not know whether the Masonic officials who decided to stay in that city despite the conditions were still living or not. He does know of others who are condemned to die of starvation or exhaustion in concentration camps; that the general conditions in Poland are worse than in any other country that has been conquered by the Nazis; that the people are suffer-

ing as never before, even during the World War, but that they still believe in a final victory.

#### VERMONT'S GOVERNOR A MASON

4 - 27 - 1941

Mr. Alfred H. Moorhouse  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Brother Moorhouse,

In reading April MASONIC CRAFTSMAN I note with interest the thirty-six states with Masonic Governors, and twelve states, including Vermont, not having Masonic Governors.

For your information, William H. Wills, Governor of Vermont, is a member of this Masonic Lodge and took part in our Legislative night, held this past winter and is a Past Potentate of Cairo Temple, Rutland, Vermont.

Fraternally,

CLARENCE H. HASKINS, Secy.

Aurora Lodge, Montpelier, Vt.

#### AN ENGLISH APPEAL

The following letter, which speaks for itself, recently appeared in the *Newcastle Evening Chronicle*.

Sir,—Amongst the cities that have suffered by enemy action is the fine old city of Bristol. Many old historical buildings have been destroyed, and amongst them is the old Masonic Hall which has been gutted by fire. Everything was destroyed, including regalia belonging to members of various Bristol lodges.

They are now in need of Masonic aprons and collars, so I ask if you will allow me to appeal to your readers to send any regalia that they have no use for now, or can spare to help these people.

Any parcels could be sent direct to T. P. Langford, 30, College Green, Bristol, who would gratefully acknowledge same, or if it would save the donor trouble, I would be pleased to forward any parcels sent to me.—Yours, etc.,

P. LANGFORD.

23, Blackett Street,  
Newcastle, England

#### AMBULANCE FOR CHINA

The Scottish Rite Bodies of Boise, Idaho, recently purchased an ambulance fully equipped, which has been sent to New York for shipment to China. It bears, in both English and Chinese characters, this sentiment: "Humanity Above All." The ambulance was put on display in the lobby of the Owyhee Hotel and quite a number of donations were received during the time the public was able to see it.

This ambulance was given in addition to a check that was sent in a few months ago to pay for another ambulance to be used for war relief. The Deputy of the Supreme Council in Idaho, William N. Northrop, 33d, has taken an active interest in doing whatever service he could for England and her allies.

#### ILLINOIS GOVERNOR

Governor Dwight H. Green, 32d, of Illinois, long a member of Medinah Shrine Temple in Chicago, was present recently to welcome into Shrinedom several of his fellow state officers. Lieutenant Governor Hugh Cross, State Treasurer Warren Wright, United States Senator C. Wayland Brooks, and Paul G. Armstrong, Director of Selective Draft for Illinois, were each duly initiated.

#### FED UP WITH GERMAN RULE

General Charles de Gaulle has his followers on the European Continent, even in Occupied France. A story from *The London Daily Express* can be used as a typical example.

A young French air mechanic who wanted to join the Free French forces in England took off in a stolen plane from a German base across the channel and landed safely in England, under heavy British anti-aircraft guns. The first man he met was a laborer.

"Is this England?" he asked in broken English. When the farmhand said it was, the Frenchman kissed him on both cheeks. He explained he was fed up with living under German rule.

#### BISHOP HONORED

For "understanding and good will to all mankind," the Rt. Rev. Henry St. George Tucker, presiding bishop of the Protestant Episcopal church in the United States, received a Masonic medal for distinguished achievement, high Masonic honor, at New York, Wednesday, May 7.

Bishop Tucker, former missionary to Japan, once president of St. Paul's College at Tokio and bishop of the diocese of Kyoto, received the award at the 160th annual communication of the New York state grand lodge of Masons.

#### LETTER FROM A FRENCH WOMAN

The apparent unconcern of people in the United States toward what is happening to the innocent peoples of Europe was brought out in a letter from a woman of French origin, published recently in a large daily newspaper. The neighbors had repeatedly told her how lucky she was to be in "God's country," yet never appeared to care that 10,000 civilians died in Belgrade, victims of Nazi bombers.

People of the United States apparently are still more interested in the baseball results than in the terrible suffering of enslaved Europeans, and are worried because of the inconvenience of the draft. She sums it up by saying, "As I am of French origin, my neighbors never miss a chance to boast how happy we are over here, compared to over there. Strange enough, I just cannot join in the rejoicing. Serbs are not of my race, Greeks either, and my country is at peace, but I don't see that any decent human being can boast of their peace, abundance and

happiness when other human beings are massacred all over the world. Aren't you afraid that, some day, nobody will want to die for dear old New York?"

#### MASONS OBSERVE

##### ANNIVERSARY OF D. C.

##### CORNERSTONE LAYING

Members of Washington-Alexandria Lodge No. 22, A.F. & A.M., of Alexandria, Va., dressed in colonial costumes and re-enacted the original District of Columbia cornerstone laying as the highlight of the observance of the 150th anniversary of this event, which was held at Jones Point, Va., on April 15, 1941. Masons from Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia participated. The affair was sponsored by the Association of Oldest Inhabitants in the District of Columbia.

Carefully following the original ceremony, members of the lodge met in their lodge room, proceeded to historic Wise's Tavern in Alexandria, and thence to Jones Point. Visitors were welcomed by Mayor William T. Wilkins of Alexandria, and short talks made by Charles H. Calahan, 32d, K.C.C.H., Past Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and Ara Marcus Daniels, Grand Master of the District of Columbia Grand Lodge, Senior Grand Warden Martin H. Kinsinger and Deputy Grand Warden Garland W. Wolfe of the Maryland Grand Lodge joined in the observance.

President John Clagget Proctor of the Association of Oldest Inhabitants presided during that organization's part in the program. U. S. Representative Stephen Bolles of Wisconsin, District of Columbia Commissioner, and John B. Gordon, president of the Washington Society of Alexandria, spoke.

The original cornerstone was not laid within what are now the boundaries of the District of Columbia. It was situated at Jones Point, along the Potomac River, near Alexandria, and the territory was ceded back to Virginia in 1846. From 1855 until about thirty years ago, the cornerstone was obscured by a sea wall constructed when the Government placed a lighthouse on Jones Point. After sixty-four years, enough of the sea wall was removed so that the stone could be visible at all times, and an iron grating was placed around it by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

An account of the cornerstone laying on April 15, 1791, was carried by a Philadelphia, Pa., newspaper. A dinner preceded the ceremony, after which the Masons of Alexandria (now Washington-Alexandria) Lodge marched with various dignitaries and citizens to Jones Point. Prominent among those participating were Daniel Carroll, one of the first District of Columbia Commissioners and former member of the continental congress, the constitutional convention, and

the house of representatives from Maryland, and Dr. David Stuart, family physician for President George Washington and considered one of his closest advisers.

The cornerstone was laid by Dr. Elisha Cullen Dick, Master of Alexandria Lodge, who was a close friend of General Washington and attended him during his last illness. Doctor Dick also presided at the Masonic funeral of the first President.

Afterwards, toasts were drunk, and Doctor Dick proposed: "May jealousy, that 'green-eyed monster,' be buried deep under the work which we have this day completed, never to rise again within the federal district."

In 1793, this same lodge participated in the laying of the cornerstone of the United States Capitol, and General Washington, Past Master of Alexandria Lodge, conducted the ceremonies. The apron and sash worn on this occasion by General Washington, which had been made by the wife of General Lafayette, are still in the possession of Washington-Alexandria Lodge No. 22.

#### BRITISH MASONIC CHARITIES

British Masons are continuing to support English Masonic charities, despite the war with its attendant high taxes and increased living costs. The annual festival to raise money for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution, which cares for elderly Masons and Masonic widows, netted 72,540 pounds—almost \$300,000. Last year's contributions, at a time when total war, with its civilian bombings and unrestricted submarine activity, had not yet been felt on the British Islands, amounted to 86,000 pounds.

No colorful festival was staged this year, the committee merely meeting on the appointed day and the list of donations and subscriptions read. British Masons dispensed with the usual social aspects of the charity drive.

In an effort to keep expenses at a minimum, it has been announced that the Stewards in charge of the annual drive for funds for the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls will not receive the usual Stewards' jewel. Instead, they will be given a badge made from cardboard with a calico facing.

#### INJUNCTION

Always remember what Masonry is, and what it stands for; remember that it is not a religion, but that it is a series of moral teachings, it points the way to man to a better and cleaner life; it broadens his knowledge of his duty to his God and to his fellow man; Masonry cannot make a man live better, but it puts within his grasp these moral precepts which, if he follows their literal meaning, will make him a better man, a better father, a better neighbor, and a better Mason; there is no plausible reason for a Mason to go radically wrong; the greatest teachings ever written come from the Great Light

in Masonry; a Mason has no excuse for not knowing what is right, fair and just in his actions toward his fellow man; many of us consider ourselves Masons because we have taken the degrees and are permitted to wear its symbol on our coat lapels, but that conception of it is as far from the truth as the East is from the West; a true Mason is a good man; a man who is willing to make sacrifices of time, money and opportunity in behalf of mankind and the Brother at his elbow.

#### U.S.O. AND M.S.A. WELFARE WORK

The United Service Organizations for National Defense, Inc., commonly known as U.S.O., has begun its drive for funds from the general public for \$10,675,000.

Many brethren, interested in welfare of the armed forces, are asking how the U.S.O. program squares with that of The Masonic Service Association, apparently under the erroneous impression that all welfare agencies would be brought within the scope of the U.S.O. if permitted to work in the welfare field.

Frequent press stories contain such statements as: "The organization was formed at the request of the President of the United States, the Secretaries of War and Navy and the Federal Security Administrator"; "the organization is the official agency of the department"; "the U.S.O. will control and staff all buildings erected by the Taft organization for welfare work in the communities adjacent to army and navy stations and new industrial centers."

Mr. Charles Taft, Assistant Coordinator, says of such all inclusive statements, simply "They are not so!"

The U.S.O. consists of the Young Men's Christian Association; the National Catholic Community Service (represented generally by the Knights of Columbus); the Jewish Welfare Board; the Salvation Army; the Young Women's Christian Association; and the Travelers' Aid Association. The first four were active in welfare work in World War I.

Officially the U.S.O. is just another agency for welfare work, larger than others, but not a coordinating agency for other organizations.

In the welfare field U.S.O. does not affect The Masonic Service Association plan. The M.S.A. stands on an equal footing before the government with the U.S.O. and other welfare organizations seeking to serve the armed forces. The Masonic Service Association plan will not be subordinated to any other plan or group control.

The Masonic Service Association has the same standing, importance and independence as the U.S.O. Both have been promised buildings where necessary by Mr. Taft. There will be no connection nor competition between the two agencies in the field or elsewhere. *There will be cordial cooperation.*

The U.S.O. has a large program that



will require much money to carry through. *It deserves the support of all who have the welfare of the soldiers, sailors, marines and coast guardsmen at heart.* It is especially important to those organizations and individuals who have no personal or fraternal outlet for their donations.

Fortunately for Masonry, *Masons have an excellent outlet of their own for their donations* which is already in the field with a Center at Columbia, South Carolina, for Fort Jackson; and other Centers in the course of establishment at Jacksonville and Starke, Florida, for Camp Blanding; at Rolla, Missouri, for Fort Leonard Wood; and at Alexandria, Louisiana, for Camps Beauregard, Claiborne, Livingston and Polk. Others are planned. *All Masons can contribute to this excellent work for brethren in the armed services through their respective Grand Lodges.*

#### EIRE

Prime Minister De Valera of the Irish Free State regards the proposed conscription of Northern Ireland citizens for military service with the British Army as an impending disaster. Frank Aiken, the Prime Minister's personal emissary in Washington, calls the plan a "monstrous outrage." In the interest of harmony the plan was dropped.

Its army and equipment outmoded by about twenty years, Eire stands steadfast and alone against what it calls threats to its independence by Britain, and admits a Nazi threat to a small degree. Its army is partly equipped with 20,000 1917 U. S. Enfield rifles, purchased last summer, and with those General Aiken has promised Eire will defend its independence against all comers. They have no modern planes. Eire also stubbornly refuses to lease or lend important naval bases which could be used most advantageously for the cause of the democracies in the battle of the Atlantic. Eire has completely renounced every form of cooperation with the British.

The recent visit here of Defense Minister Aiken for the purchase of arms and food with which to make the Free State more independent of the fight against Germany has been unsuccessful. The Irish mission to buy more military equipment has failed because the U. S. Government believes that this nation can spare arms only to those nations now engaged in an all-out fight against the Nazis. The United States will supply, it is said, several shipments of food.

Norway and Sweden tried to remain independent of the European war under similar circumstances. The Government of Eire might find, sooner than expected, which becomes the greater threat to its independence—the use of Irish bases and ports by the British or a well-timed Nazi invasion.

Eire has always claimed jurisdiction

over the six counties in Northern Ireland, despite the fact that Ulster citizens have always remained loyal to Great Britain. The prosperity of Northern Ireland has caused a great influx of persons from Eire in recent years, and it is believed that much of the opposition to conscription came from this element.

It is obviously a question that concerns only Ulster and Great Britain. It is hard to see what business of Eire such conscription could be, for, regardless of claims to the contrary, Ulster is a part of the British Empire, not Eire.

The opposition seems doubly ridiculous when it is considered that Great Britain will have to defend Eire in case Hitler chooses to strike through Ireland. Unable to help itself, Eire is attempting to actually hinder the war effort of the very country upon which its freedom depends.

#### 154TH ANNUAL

##### COMMUNICATION OF NORTH CAROLINA GRAND LODGE

The 154th annual communication of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, A.F. & A.M., held in Asheville beginning April 15, 1941, was unusually well attended. Preceding the actual opening of the session, Judge Thomas J. Harkins, 33d, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge, was honored, on April 14th, at a banquet.

The next evening at the opening session, held in the Asheville public auditorium because of the unusually large crowd, Grand Master Harkins read the report of his year in office. The reports of Grand Secretary John H. Anderson and Grand Treasurer H. C. Alexander showed conditions satisfactory in North Carolina.

At the Grand Lodge session on the morning of April 16th, the recommendation of the Grand Master relative to Masonic fellowship was approved. It provided that the welfare work of the various blue lodges located near United States Army Posts should remain under the direction and control of the lodges themselves, without reference to other organizations.

The grand master expressed in no uncertain terms his opinion of the enemies of Freemasonry who are continually making false and vicious charges against the Craft. At the same session, he presented, in behalf of the Grand Lodge, the Joseph Montfort medallion to Past Masters R. C. Dunn, Charles B. Newcomb and J. Edward Allen in recognition of their long and devoted service. A committee also was appointed to report on the preservation of the old Lodge Temple (Royal White Hart) at Halifax, N. C. It is the oldest in the United States that has been in continuous use, having been authorized in 1769, though not finished until several years later. It is the burial place of Joseph Montfort, founder of Freemasonry in North Carolina.

At the closing session on April 16th, final reports were read, followed by the election appointment and installation of officers. Charles F. Eldridge was unanimously named grand master and presented with a grand master's apron. Retiring Grand Master Harkins received a gold past grand master's jewel, presented by the grand lodge.

The Oxford Orphanage, where 330 children, half of them the sons and daughters of Masons, are raised and educated, is one of the principal charities of the North Carolina grand lodge. In cooperation with the Order of the Eastern Star, the grand lodge also maintains a home at Greensboro, where more than 80 elderly Masons, and wives and widows of Masons, receive care.

#### SCOTTISH RITE WAR CHARITIES

Freemasonry, as a rule, carries on its benevolent works without ostentation and in silence, but so many inquiries have been made of the Supreme Council, 33d, A. & A.S.R., Southern Jurisdiction, U.S. A., as to what the Scottish Rite Masons of this Jurisdiction have done to help the unfortunate Masons and others of Europe, that the following report has been prepared showing what has been contributed up to this time.

Fifty-seven thousand dollars have been cabled to the Mother Grand Lodge in England, the amount having been received and acknowledged. Four ambulances, costing \$5,400, have been purchased and shipped to the British Islands, but no report has reached this office as to whether or not they arrived safely.

A contribution of \$5,000 in cash and ten ambulance chassis have gone to China. The chassis cost \$1,000 each and are being shipped by way of Rangoon, where the Chinese will be able to equip them to meet their own peculiar needs. On the first trip they will be used to transport medical supplies to Chungking, the headquarters of Gen. Chiang Kai-shek's government. Arrangements were made through the Chinese Embassy.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Gen. Kai-shek is Wang Chung-wei, a 32d Mason and a member of the Scottish Rite bodies in Peking, China. He received the degrees in 1926, at which time Grand Commander John H. Cowles of the Supreme Council, Southern Jurisdiction, assisted in the conferring of the 32nd degree. At that time Mr. Wang was one of the five permanent members of the World Court, but he resigned to give his services to his country during the present hostilities.

This Jurisdiction has turned over \$1,450 to Finland through its Minister to the United States, Hjalmar J. Procope, an ardent Mason. The need for food and clothing for the people of Finland is extremely urgent. One of the causes is the transfer of some 400,000 persons from the area taken by Russia to Finland

proper. Because of the war with Russia and the difficulties of trade and shipping under present conditions, it is necessary for the Finnish Government to supply a large element of the people with food.

To the Grand Lodge of Scotland has been sent \$1,500, the receipt of which has been acknowledged. Switzerland has been cabled \$2,000 for the relief of Masons in that country, but no acknowledgment has yet been received.

A contribution of \$2,500 was sent to the Masons of the Dominican Republic, who have done a marvelous work in aiding refugees from captured countries to come to Santo Domingo. Some forty refugee families have located there, and others have been aided in getting to Mexico, Venezuela and Brazil. The Dominican Masons have exhausted their own resources, and need funds to carry on this work.

Before France was overrun by the German Army, a total of \$41,100 had been sent to Paris for use in aiding members of the Fraternity in escaping from the conquered countries. While this aided materially to save the lives of literally hundreds of Masons, several hundred others were either executed or sent to concentration camps. The money was under the supervision of Grand Commander Raymond of the Supreme Council of France.

Before Greece succumbed to the German hordes, \$15,000 was sent to that heroic nation. Smaller amounts have been sent to aid individuals, and individual Masons in the United States have contributed much towards filling ships with food and clothing to be sent to those suffering in foreign countries.

#### UNIQUE STAMP COLLECTION

If the stamp collection of the late Charles A. Conover of Coldwater, Mich., can be taken as an example, those who declare there is no such thing as a "Masonic postage stamp" do not know of the possibilities they overlook. Mr. Conover, who was General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, U.S.A., compiled a unique collection of hundreds of postage stamps bearing the pictures of men who were and are Masons. He typed a biographical sketch of the subject and added the Masonic record, a fascinating research and study of history and biography.

Going down the line of notable Masons, there are in his collection stamps of Presidents Washington, Monroe, Jackson, Tyler, Polk, Buchanan, Johnson, Garfield, McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, Taft, Harding, and Franklin Roosevelt.

The Army and Navy have been represented by more than forty characters who were Masons. Queen Victoria, whose girlish portrait adorned the first penny post, was formally chosen by the Masonic Fraternity to be Patroness of the

Craft. Queen Victoria's son and successor, King Edward VII, resigned the Grand Master's chair to take the Crown. Edward VIII, now the Duke of Windsor, and George VI, his brother, who succeeded him, are both members. A vast number of stamps have been printed in honor of the latter two men alone.

Another department of this "Masonic Postage Stamp" collection includes stamps that may have a Masonic emblem, or in any way depict an object that has Masonic connection, either historically or symbolically. These would include the square and compasses, the Bible, level, pilasters, hour glass, gavel, trowel, all-seeing eye, and other symbols.

#### PHILIPPINE GRAND LODGE

A plea for promotion of Masonic education and an announced gain of 225 Master Masons were among the highlights of the message of Grand Master Jose de los Reyes, 33d, at the 29th annual communication of the Grand Lodge of the Philippines, at Manila, P. I.

Messages of congratulations were received from Past Grand Master Edwin E. Elser, 33d, now in the United States, and from David W. K. Au, District Grand Master for China. Creditable work by the District Grand Lodge for China was cited, and the high percentage of Masons in the government of General Chiang Kai-shek was revealed. A communication from the Grand Lodge of Greece was read and Past Grand Master Conrado Benitez, K.C.C.H., who represents the Grand Lodge of England, responded on behalf of the Grand Representatives.

Grand Master de los Reyes called upon the subordinate lodges to write their lodge histories to serve as the basis of the history of Masonry in the Philippines.

George R. Harvey, 33d, presented a fifty-year button to James J. Wilson of Mount Apo Lodge No. 45. Mr. Wilson was raised a Master Mason in 1889 at Falkirk, Scotland, and he is the first in the Philippines to be awarded this distinguished honor.

Past Grand Master Stanton Youngberg presented the diploma of merit to the brethren who had been selected for their valuable services to the Craft during 1940. Hua-Chuen Mei responded on behalf of the recipients.

At the close of the communication, John Robert McFie, Jr., was installed Grand Master, and Antonio Gonzalez, P.G.M., was re-elected Grand Secretary.

#### EVERY MAN'S JOB

America was electrified a few weeks ago by a simple phrase that flashed around the world, "There will always be an England." And that phrase dramatized, as phrases have a way of doing, a great fact: There will always be an England, because

of the sacrifices that the English people are making, and are ready to make, and because these people are giving their all in order that their country and their way of living may survive. In the same way we can say that our own United States, and the democracy which it exemplifies, will survive, providing we are willing to sacrifice, and to give our all, and to work for it.

For Masons there is a profound application of the thrilling phrase. Will there always be a Freemasonry? Will Freemasonry, in the face of the totalitarian attacks upon it, in the changes that are rapidly taking place in the thinking of the world, in the revolutionary changes that are taking place in modern life—in view of all these things can we truthfully say that there will always be a Freemasonry?

Probably every reader to these words will give, without hesitation, a vigorous Yes. Many will say Yes because there always has been a Freemasonry. It is not, however, as simple as all that. There will always be a Freemasonry only if its adherents are prepared at all times to sacrifice for it, to give and do for it, to fight for it, to believe in it. For "wishing will not make it so"; miracles do not happen today, and any institution that survives in this modern world can do so only at the cost of struggle.

The question more often asked than any other in Masonic circles is, perhaps, "What is wrong with Freemasonry?" There is, of course, nothing the matter with Freemasonry, but something is wrong in the attitude toward it of some Freemasons, and that thing is a spirit of defeatism that is expressed in the very asking of the question. If a lodge is in the doldrums, without candidates, deep in debt, with a long list of delinquent members, and benches empty at meetings, someone is bound to say, "What is wrong with Masonry?" instead of "What is wrong with my lodge?", and then going out and doing something about it—fighting for it, working for it, and even sacrificing for it.

This is important, brethren. Nothing is wrong with Freemasonry, but one or more of several things may be wrong with the situation in a lodge or district, and if all of these situations were corrected in all of our lodges and districts, by the members of those lodges and districts, there would be but one answer to the question, "Will there always be a Masonry?"

Is *your* lodge-room empty on lodge nights? Not if you are willing to sacrifice of your time, and to forego your favorite radio program, or a meeting of your bridge or other club; to be regardless of your personal comfort if the night be stormy; to forget some pique against, or lack of confidence in, the Master. There may be something wrong, but it will not be with Masonry that the fault



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lies, but with the individual Mason—and it is nothing that sacrifice on his part will not cure.

Sometimes one hears, as evidence that something is wrong with Masonry, that standards of leadership are not what they used to be. If in any lodge or district there is a dearth of leaders, Masonry is not at fault, but rather the responsibility belongs to the men who make up lodge and district, in choosing unable material for leadership, and then permitting poorly equipped officers to advance to the East, and even be selected for district leadership. Unremitting care and watchfulness (sacrifice again) on the part of the individual member will always remedy this condition. And if, by their silence, or by chronic absence from lodge meetings, members do not attempt to remedy unfortunate situations in their lodge, no one can say that Masonry is at fault, or question that there will always be Freemasonry.

Or one may say that Masonry will fail because it lacks proper objectives. But has the retailer of such objections ever gone out and really sacrificed time and effort and inclination in behalf of a drive for his lodge charity funds? Or given the time and money necessary to visit the Home at Utica, and the Camp at Round Lake, to discover whether his Masonry in this State has an objective or not? For no one who has ever visited these beneficent institutions, and caught the smiles in the eyes of the orphaned children there, and the look of hope in the faces of the aged wards of the Craft, can question whether Masonry has adequate objectives or not.

Objectives? One of the bounden obligations of a Master Mason is that he shall ever seek more light in Masonry in order that he may instruct the Brethren,

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and yet—has the Brother who wonders whether there will always be a Masonry been unceasing in his use of the Grand Lodge Library, which a man could use throughout his life and still feel just a beginner? Has he given a dollar a year to help make the publication of the *Masonic Outlook* (or the N. E. MASONIC CRAFTSMAN) possible, in order that it may continue to be a source of instruction to officers and others who find its pages brimful of important information and instruction in the many features of the Craft's program?

Or someone may feel that there is missing in Freemasonry the old-time friendliness and cordiality—thinking of "the good old days," when to be a Mason meant friendship, and plenty of emphasis on social activities. And yet—is such a one the first today to volunteer to head a committee to put over a lodge social affair? Is he first in the lodge-room at each meeting night to greet the Brethren with a smile, always radiating friendliness? Is he smilingly tolerant of the mistakes of the younger men in the lodge, whose chief fault may be an enthusiasm as yet untempered by experience, or is he resentful of the younger men "coming along in the lodge," and therefore finding it difficult to radiate the very spirit of friendliness that he so much laments?

And so, Brethren, to ask whether there will always be a Masonry is, or should be, to ask some soul-searching questions.

It means, for one thing, for a man to ask what are his own responsibilities, and whether he is meeting them before he questions whether Masonry is spiritually solvent. The real enemy of Masonry is within the heart of every man, and to offer appeasement in any form, or to make excuses for ourselves and our failure to measure up to our individual responsibilities, to attempt to place blame anywhere but upon our own attitudes, is the part of Masonic defeatism, and is an invitation to disaster.

Yes, Brethren, there will always be a Masonry, if . . . —By CHARLES H. JOHNSON, *Grand Secretary, in the New York Masonic Outlook.*

**GERMAN REFUGEE PREDICTS**

Dr. Josef Dunner, foreign correspondent and lecturer and a refugee from Germany since 1935, predicted, in an address before the Civitan Club of Washington, D.C., on January 7th, that Germany would lose this war, but in ten years after peace is restored, would start another. He said the only way to maintain peace between Germany and the democratic world after this war would be to wipe out German militarism and the Junker class.

Doctor Dunner declared that the instigators of the world wars since the start of the century were Prussian militarists led by such men as Thyssen, Stinnes and Krupp. He ridiculed the idea that the

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Treaty of Versailles was directly responsible for the present war. What of the first World War started by the Kaiser? he asked.

He expressed the opinion that the United States may yet save the world by becoming an arsenal for world democracy. He added that the Germans are sending agents to the Western Hemisphere to sabotage moral and military preparations before they can become effective as now outlined by the Administration.

**All Sorts**

CANNY!

Scot: "My lad, are you to be my cad-die?"

Caddie: "Yes, sir."

Scot: "And how are you at finding lost balls?"

Caddie: "Very good sir."

Scot: "Well, look around and find one so we can start the game."

**PULL OVER**

Buncrust—See that fellow over there? He's always pulling fast ones.

Terwilliger—Town wit, eh?

Buncrust—No, speed cop.

**REWARD**

"Any of you boys know anything about shorthand?" snapped the sergeant of a new company of raw recruits.

Six young men stepped promptly forward.

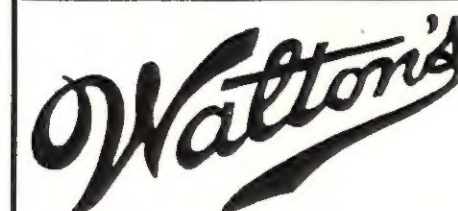
"Righto," continued the sergeant. "They're shorthanded in the cookhouse. You boys report for potato peeling tomorrow morning."

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Counsel (cross-examining farmer)—  
Now don't quibble! Do you understand  
a simple problem or not?

Witness—I do.

Counsel—Then tell the court this: If  
15 men plowed a field in five hours, how  
long will 30 men take to plow the same  
field?

Witness—They couldn't do it.

Counsel—Why not?

Witness—Because the 15 men have al-  
ready plowed it!

## TENSE

Boogy—You look down-hearted, old  
man. What are you worried about?

Woogy—My future.

Boogy—What makes your future seem  
so hopeless?

Woogy—My past.

## EVENTIDE

At eventide I seem to see  
Beside me as in quiet meditation  
I sit in peace beside my open fire  
A vision of men traveling  
Upon an upward road  
Beset with obstacles unheard of  
In earlier days long gone.  
And o'er that vision of a struggling race  
A guiding light appears which beckons  
On to a celestial paradise  
Bedecked in radiance with a  
Symphony of harmony, untouched  
By strife and all the direful  
Moods of men on earth.

Among those many numbered there  
Are men of upright mien,  
Who steadfastly gazed out  
Upon the goal they sought:  
The unanimity of brotherhood.  
With helping hand they lifted up  
Their weaker brethren to the task  
Of venturing along a storm-torn road  
Nor urged by fear as with a goad  
But satisfied to lend their aid  
Complacent in the thought that comforts  
All to whom a worthy act  
Makes merit and supreme  
Assurance in a faith that conquers all,  
ALFRED H. MOORHOUSE.

## YAWN BULL

The often-asked question "Will British  
nerves crack under the continuous ter-  
rific air raids?" is unconsciously answered  
in a paragraph from W. Somerset Maugh-  
am's article in the *Red Book*, entitled,

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"Here I may interrupt myself to tell  
you of a little incident within my own  
knowledge. There is a tiny spit of land  
in an English river which guards the  
approach to an important city, and here  
are stationed a number of men to repel  
a landing. They are *constantly bombed*.  
It is a lonely life they lead, *with little  
distraction.*"—(italics ours.)

## THE CALL

I have heard Churchill. Like a voice un-  
known,Save in some dream of ultimate demand  
For all that fires the soul swift to disown  
The chaff of life, and put the halting  
handOnce more to freedom's plow, the call  
has come;Challenging me, far off, and you and you,  
To heed the rumble of the despot's drum,  
And save the world their legions would  
undo.I would he had been near to see our tears;  
To feel the quickened beating of our  
heart,Outfooting selfish moods and petted  
fears;To know how many millions, though  
apartFrom where he westward faced in Lon-  
don night,Waved back assurance that the land is  
bright!

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# An Appeal to Reason on Behalf of Freemasonry

*Please read carefully and ACT.*

It is becoming increasingly evident that Masons in America need enlightenment on the important and fast-moving changes characterizing the present life of the fraternity in this country. Moved by events abroad, where the rights and privileges of free peoples have been usurped by arrogant force, Freemasonry stands today in dire peril. Sixteen countries in Europe have seen Freemasonry proscribed, its temples ravished, its property confiscated, its leaders persecuted even unto death. The future is dark.

Here in America with an enlightened democracy still functioning, and pursuing its slow, ponderous way with plans to make secure its heritage under our precious Bill of Rights, we still are able to meet in fraternal intercourse each month in Lodge and, without fear, exchange the friendly handclasp of fellowship.

But the well of Truth is being befouled by falsehood. People doubt.

There can be no compromise with brute force and the false philosophy of the dictatorships, and to combat the insidious peril which threatens even our free institutions it is essential that we have the facts upon conditions.

The world has grown immeasurably closer in recent years. Events in Europe can no longer be considered foreign affairs. They affect us now and unless effective steps are taken will affect us even more later on.

To be informed is to be on guard, and a vital need today is knowledge of what is transpiring within the Craft, both here and elsewhere.

For 36 years the NEW ENGLAND MASONIC CRAFTSMAN has carried the torch of Freemasonry, publishing month by month articles from the pens of illustrious leaders, as well as the news, accurately, of events. It has never been a commercial enterprise in the strict sense of that term. It is dedicated to the interests of Freemasonry as a brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God.

Until recently it has appealed to a comparatively small element within the Craft—men who appreciated its merit and recognized the need for Light on vital topics.

Now, with a seething maelstrom of social disturbances threatening, Freemasons are beginning to demand a more intimate picture of things as they affect the fraternity: Vital things which will spell the future for us and those who follow after. This picture we shall present.

Indifference has heretofore characterized all too many Masons in their fraternal relationships—but now when need for closer ties is evident men are seeking ways and means to strengthen that society of brothers whose merit has in days past brightened humanity's outlook, whose members have been the builders of ordered democracies, whose principles, founded upon the bedrock of charity and brotherly love have made immeasurable contribution to the cause of peace and human justice.

It is desirable that all Masons read at least one soundly edited, reliable, Masonic journal. This opportunity is offered to you NOW. Do not allow the charge of indifference to be laid against you. Send to this office on the blank attached your order for the CRAFTSMAN to be sent you for one year.

Grand Master Voter has approved our plan to extend to Vermonters a special offer. He has said in his own words in a recent letter to us in connection with a recent issue ". . . This number alone is well worth the cost of subscription."

You will do well not only to ponder the serious situation existing today. You will be well advised to keep informed of Masonic matters through the columns of the NEW ENGLAND MASONIC CRAFTSMAN. So won't you NOW send us with your remittance the blank attached. You will not regret it.

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